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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A device comprising a well defined within a substrate, said substrate comprising, in sequence, a first base layer, a second hydrophobic layer, and a third hydrophilic layer; said well extending from the upper surface of the base layer through the second and third layers to provide an opening in the upper surface of the third layer wherein a lipid membrane comprising a closely packed array of self-assembling amphiphilic molecules extends across the well within the region defined between the first base layer and the third hydrophilic layer. A method of forming the device is also provided.